

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-903

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Rex Family House

other

2. Location

street and number 4239 Montgomery Road not for publication

city, town Ellicott City X vicinity

county Howard

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Beazer Homes Corp

street and number 8965 Guilford Rd. Suite 209 telephone 410-948-4060

city, town Columbia state MD zip code 21046-2384

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Howard County Courthouse tax map and parcel: 24-318

city, town Ellicott City liber 9008 folio 411

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Recorded by HABS/HAER
- Historic Structure Report or Research Report
- Other

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
				Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	<u> 3 </u>	<u> 0 </u> buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> objects
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	<u> 3 </u>	<u> 0 </u> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress		
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
				Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	
				<u> 0 </u>	

7. Description

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Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Rex Family House is located at 4239 Montgomery Road, just east of Old Columbia Pike, near Ellicott City in northeastern Howard County, Maryland. The site contains a frame house, frame workshop, and frame carriage house.

House-Exterior

The house is a 2-1/2 story, three-bay by one-bay frame structure with a two-story, one-bay by two-bay ell on the rear. The house has vinyl siding and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and a north-south ridge on the main block, while the ell has an east-west ridge. On the west elevation, the first story has a new door in the center with a two-light transom. There are new one-over-one sash in the north and south bays, and they have fake shutters. These windows are typical for this house now. There is a three-bay, one-story porch with a concrete deck, iron posts and railings, aluminum on the soffit, and a half hip with asphalt shingles. The second story has three one-over-one sash. There is a central gabled wall dormer with no opening. The eave is enclosed with aluminum that follows the profile of the rafter pitch. There is an interior brick chimney set south of center on the ridge. The south elevation has wood cellar bulkhead doors on T hinges in the east bay, and a window with a three-light sash in the west bay of the foundation. The first and second stories each have a new one-over-one sash, and there is nothing in the gable end. The south elevation of the ell has an enclosed porch to the west and a pantry to the east. The first story has a storm door to the west, a new one-over-one sash in the center and a one-over-one sash in the east, it being a narrow sash in an original opening. The second story has a new one-over-one sash in the center, in what appears to be an original opening. There is a new aluminum porch attached to the first story. The east elevation of the ell has no openings in the south bay and a one-over-one sash in the first and second stories of the north bay. The north elevation has a one-over-one sash on both the first and second stories of the ell and the main block. The ell chimney does not presently pierce the roof.

House-Interior

The basement stairs are accessed from the east room and have four-panel door. The basement is beneath the south room only, and has stairs to the outside on the south wall. The first story joists are sash-sawn 3 by 9s that run east-west and are spaced about 22 inches on centers. There is random-width flooring above that is circular-sawn and appears to be oak. The basement is flooded.

The first story has a single-pile, lobby-entry plan with a center enclosed straight run of stairs that ascends to the east. The floor is carpeted throughout the main block, and there is plain baseboard and beaded-interior-edge architrave that is mitered at the corners. The two-light transom over the front door is mortised and tenoned and pinned. The south room has a chimney on the north wall with a wood mantel that has chamfered pilasters with two beads at the top. There are bulls' eyes on chamfered impost blocks, two reeds on the frieze, an ovolo bed mould, and a plain mantelshelf. Above this shelf is a stovepipe hole. There is original baseboard between the pilasters, indicating that this was never a functioning fireplace. The north room has no mantel or details, and the east room is a modern kitchen. The kitchen has a drop ceiling with tiles, and has beaded-edge vertical-board half wainscot on the west and north elevations, partially covered by a thin, flat material. The wainscot has a quirked ogee and bevel below the chair rail. There is a chimney on the west wall for a cookstove. The south elevation has a window in the center that has a two-over-two sash with horizontal lights. There is a door to the west of it that has three lights over three panels. To the south of this is the enclosed porch, with German siding on the house.

The second story floor plan mirrors the first story, and is all carpeted. The doors have four panels with sunken double fields and ogee panel moulds. They have cast iron foliate butt hinges with acorn finials and new locks that have been removed. The architrave matches that of the first story. The south chamber has paneling, tile ceiling, linoleum on the floor below the carpeting, and a chimney on the north wall with no evidence that there was ever a mantelpiece here. The north chamber has a closet on the south, set to the west, over the lobby entry. The door matches the others on the second story. Originally, there was a door at the east end of the landing to the east chamber, but the east chamber was altered with a built-in closet on the south. There is a hatch in the ceiling that leads to the attic. There is a bathroom and closet over the enclosed porch to the south.

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Name Rex Family House
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

Workshop

About 30 feet southeast of the house is a building that may have been a workshop. It is a one-story, two-bay by two-bay frame structure with vinyl siding and a gable with inverted-V-seam and a north-south ridge. The north elevation has a new one-over-one sash to the east, and a four-panel door to the west that has sunken fields, ogee panel moulds, and a plain cast iron rim lock with a mineral knob. The west and south elevations have no openings. The east elevation has had a shed-roofed carport added that is open on the north and south and has corrugated Fiberglass on the east. The east elevation of the workshop, inside this carport, has two six-over-six sash that appear to be mortised and tenoned and pinned at the corners. The interior of the workshop has 3-1/2-inch pine flooring that runs north-south. The building is of circular-sawn 2 by 4 construction with 2 by 6 rafters and ties. There is infill with plywood on the west and south elevations that could have originally been three windows on the west and a large window opening on the south. Many of the studs have plaster burns on them, and are probably reused timber since several of the studs do not have plaster burns. There is cross-bracing between the two east windows, and the sash are not pinned and may be nailed at the corners.

Carriage House

There is a carriage house about 60 feet east of the house. It is a two-story, three-bay by three-bay frame structure with plywood and batten siding, a gable roof with inverted-V-seam metal, and a north-south ridge. There is a one-story shed roof section on the west that is one bay by three bays and has board and batten siding. There is a one-story plywood addition on the north end, with gable roof. The south elevation has a plywood-and-batten door on machine-made strap hinges in the east and west bays, with no opening in the center bay. This same door is also on the shed section, but is hung on butterfly hinges. The second story has a plywood door on rollers in the center. The west elevation is mostly covered by the shed section, which has board and batten siding. There is a new window in the north bay, no opening in the center, and a two-light sash in the left bay. The east elevation has a pair of T1-11 cross-buck doors on machine-made strap hinges in the center of the first story. There are no other openings on this elevation.

The interior of the shed-roofed section has 2 1/4-inch tongue-and-grooved wood flooring that runs north-south. The west side of the main block of the carriage house has board and batten siding that is circular-sawn, with a ledger board to support the shed rafters. The shed has a heavy timber, circular-sawn frame that is mortised and tenoned and pegged and has circular-sawn rafters that are approximately 2 inches by 5 inches. The north end of the shed is closed off. The main section has the same flooring as the shed to the south and north, with concrete in the center. The floor is very rotten. There is plywood on the walls, but this has been opened up to the shed on the west, in the center. The carriage house also has a circular-sawn heavy timber frame that is mortised and tenoned and pegged. The second story joists run east-west, are circular-sawn 2 by 10s, and are spaced 24 inches on centers. There is a center summer beam that runs north-south and has one post surviving beneath it, with another post having been removed. The summer beam has a center tenon into the south center post in the south elevation. The upper story is wide open, and of the same construction, with 2 by 10 rafters that are mitered at the ridge.

8. Significance

Inventory No. HO-903

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates

Architect/Builder n/a

Construction dates c. 1892

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

Frederick and Augusta Rex were born and married in Berlin, Germany and, depending upon which census you believe, emigrated to the United States in 1882 along with their two sons, August and Frederick, or in 1872, or 1869. Later reports claim that both children were born in Maryland, and it seems that one of the earlier dates is more likely, though Rex does not appear in the 1870 or 1880 census. Their travels after arrival are not known until 1891, when the 48-year-old Frederick purchased three acres of land on Montgomery Road. In March 1893 he was assessed for a new dwelling, the existing house on the property, which had probably been built the previous year. In 1894 Rex added five adjacent acres, and three years later was able to purchase another five acres. The 1900 census lists Rex as a farmer, and his two sons, now aged 29 and 24, were also farm laborers. The property was too small for large scale farming, so perhaps Rex had a truck farm raising vegetables and small fruits for city markets. His location was ideal for this, being right on the roads to Annapolis, Ellicott City, and Clarksville. (1)

Frederick Rex died in 1926 and his house was purchased by his son, Frederick William Rex. The younger Frederick, and his wife and children, had been living here with his widowed father in 1920, and remained here until selling it to William Frederick Rex and his wife Dorothy in 1943. William Frederick was apparently the son of Frederick William, but he probably did not live here. In 1947 he opened an Esso gas station next door, and operated it for around twenty years. The land on which the house at 4249 Montgomery Road (HO-904) sits was part of this property, and he apparently built that house for himself. Presumably, this house became a rental property, but it remained in the family until 2005, when purchased for development. It was demolished in May 2006. (2)

The house is a traditional lobby-entry single pile plan, with an enclosed stairway beginning at the lobby and dividing the two first story rooms. The kitchen was always located in the original ell. The central gabled wall dormer had entered the vocabulary of vernacular builders by this time, and was becoming very common. The finishes in the house were very simple for this period. The shop building could date to around the time of this house, and the carriage building might, as well, though it could have been added as late as any time in the first two decades of the twentieth century.

Notes:

(1). U. S. Bureau of the Census, Howard County, Maryland, District 2, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930.

(2). Joetta M. Cramm, Howard County: A Pictorial History (Virginia Beach, VA: The Donning Co., 1987, 2004), p. 188.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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See continuation sheet *footnotes*

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1.14 acres
Acreage of historical setting 13 acres
Quadrangle name Ellicott City Quadrangle scale 1:24000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary is the property lines.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Ken Short		
organization	Howard County Dept. of Planning & Zoning	date	8/16/2006
street and number	3430 Courthouse Drive	telephone	410-313-4335
city or town	Ellicott City	state MD	zip code 21043

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

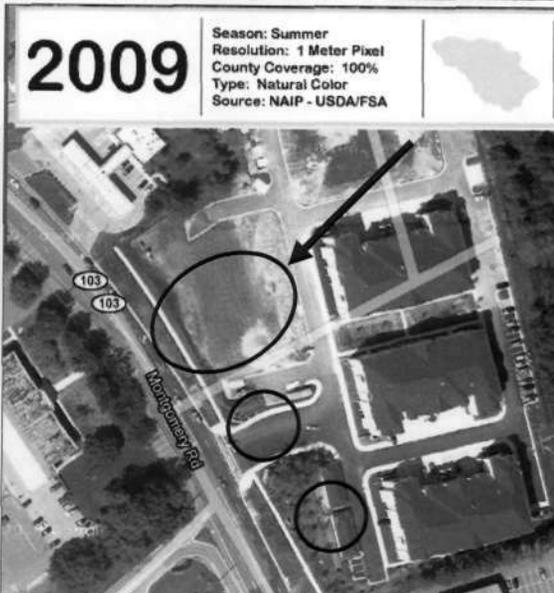
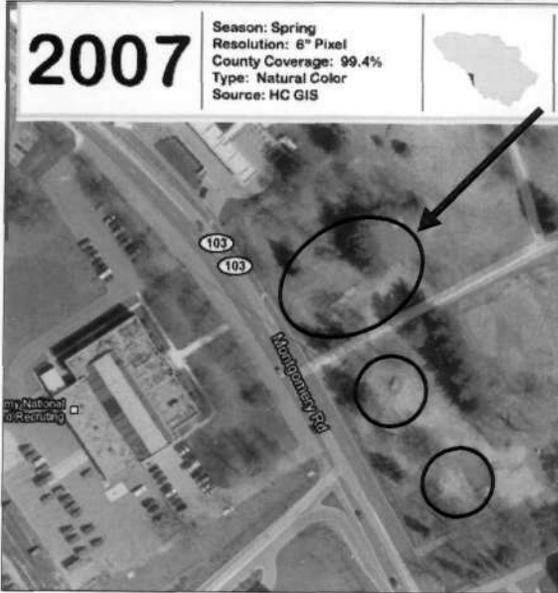
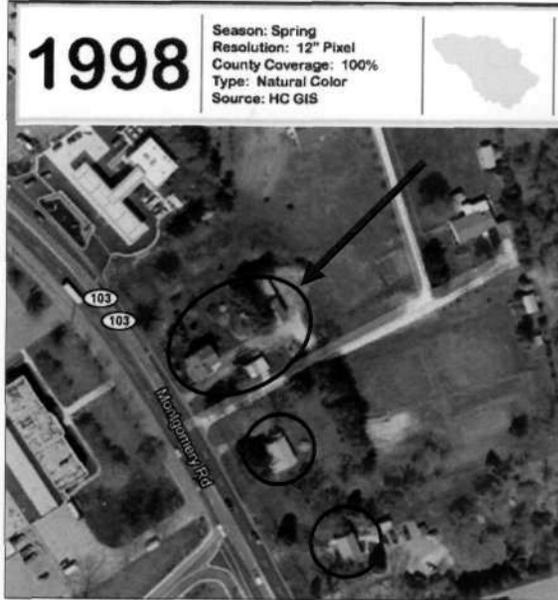
return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032
410-514-7600

Rex Family House (HO-904)
4239 Montgomery Road
CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSIDER- ATION	ACREAGE	NOTES
Dorothy Nazelrod Kerwin	Beezer Homes Corp/Tenn. Corp.	2.14.2005	MDR 9008-411	Deed-fee simple	\$380,000	1) .667 ac 2) ?	2 nd district CSN d. 1.29.2001
Clarence S. & Dorothy R. Nazelrod (H/W)	Clarence S. & Dorothy R. Nazelrod (H/W) William R. Nazelrod	2.1.1985	MDR 1328-228	Deed-fee simple	\$0		(1)
Mae Augusta Schoene	Clarence S. & Dorothy R. Nazelrod	5.6.1966	WHH 454-679				(2)
William R. Rex & wf. Dorothy/Howard Mae Augusta & Louis Schoene (H/W)/Howard	Clarence S. & Dorothy R. Nazelrod	7.28.1959	RHM 338-478	Deed-fee simple	\$5.00	.667 A	P/O 177-296 (1)
Frederick William & Bertha H. Rex (H/W)/Howard	William Frederick & Dorothy Rex (H/W)	3.19.1943	BM Jr. 177-296	Deed-fee simple	\$5.00	4.94 A	Frederick Rex is father of Frederick Wm. Rex; See 130-447 & 67-608 (1)
James Clark, exec. of Frederick Rex/Howard	Frederick William Rex	6.14.1927	HBN 130-447	Deed-fee simple	\$4,100	a) 3-1-6 ARP b) 5-0-8 ARP c) 5A	Will 8.20.1926 probated 11.30.1926
Sallie A. Peddicord & hus. Leonides/Howard R. Frank Warfield	Frederick Rex	10.27.1897	JHO 67-608	Deed-fee simple	\$400	5 A	Peddicord mortgaged o Warfield. This is part of that property adjoins Frederick Rex home tract. (C)
James Clark et al	Frederick Rex	6.10.1891	JHO 57-445	Deed-fee simple	\$390	3-1-6 ARP	On rd. from E.C. & Clarksville turnpike to Elk Ridge Landing Starts at a post of the garden fence, along the road. (A)
James Wesley & Georgianna G. Davis (H/W)	Frederick Rex	5.15.1894	JHO 61-492	Deed-fee simple	\$415	5-0-8 ARP or 5.05 A	(B)
Louisa A. Burgess, exec. of Susannah Young/Howard	James Clark	8.16.1887	LJW 52-289	Deed-fee	\$240	223 A	Will 10.7.1886; public auction; ratified 7.19.1887; N. side of Elk Ridge Landing Rd., starting at the foot of the garden where S.Y. lived (A)

HO-903
Rex Family House, site
4239 Montgomery Road (MD 103), Ellicott City
Howard County, Maryland GIS
Howard County Aerial Photography Viewer

demolished c. 2007



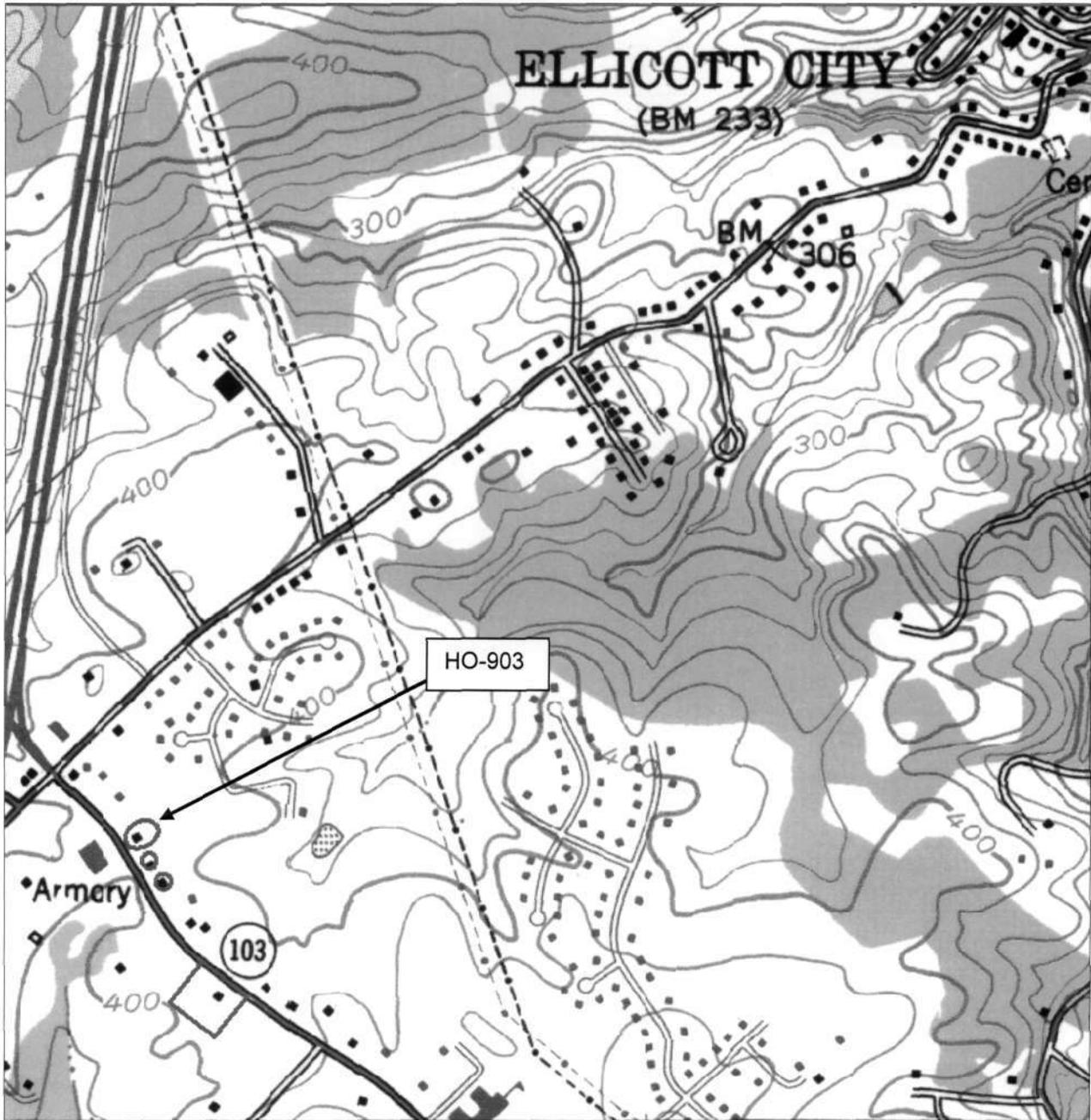
HO-903

demolished c. 2007

Rex Family House, site

4239 Montgomery Road (MD 103), Ellicott City

Ellicott City Quadrangle, 1953 (Photorevised 1966 and 1974)



Photograph Labels

HO-0903

HO-0903_20040425_01
Rex Family House
4239 Montgomery Road
Howard County,
Maryland
House, west & south
elevations
Ken Short
April 2006
1/7

HO-0903_20040425_05
Rex Family House
4239 Montgomery Road
Howard County,
Maryland
Work Shop, east &
north elevations
Ken Short
April 2006
5/7

HO-0903_20040425_02
Rex Family House
4239 Montgomery Road
Howard County,
Maryland
House, east & north
elevations
Ken Short
April 2006
2/7

HO-0903_20040425_06
Rex Family House
4239 Montgomery Road
Howard County,
Maryland
Carriage House, west &
south elevations
Ken Short
April 2006
6/7

HO-0903_20040425_03
Rex Family House
4239 Montgomery Road
Howard County,
Maryland
House, south room
mantel
Ken Short
April 2006
3/7

HO-0903_20040425_07
Rex Family House
4239 Montgomery Road
Howard County,
Maryland
Carriage House, south &
east elevations
Ken Short
April 2006
7/7

HO-0903_20040425_04
Rex Family House
4239 Montgomery Road
Howard County,
Maryland
House, east room, west
elevation
Ken Short
April 2006
4/7



HO-0903 Rex Family House 4239 Montgomery Road House, west & south elevations
Ken Short, April 2006, 1/7



HO-0903 Rex Family House 4239 Montgomery Road House, east & north elevations
Ken Short, April 2006, 2/7



HO-0903 Rex Family House 4239 Montgomery Road House, south room mantel
Ken Short, April 2006, 3/7



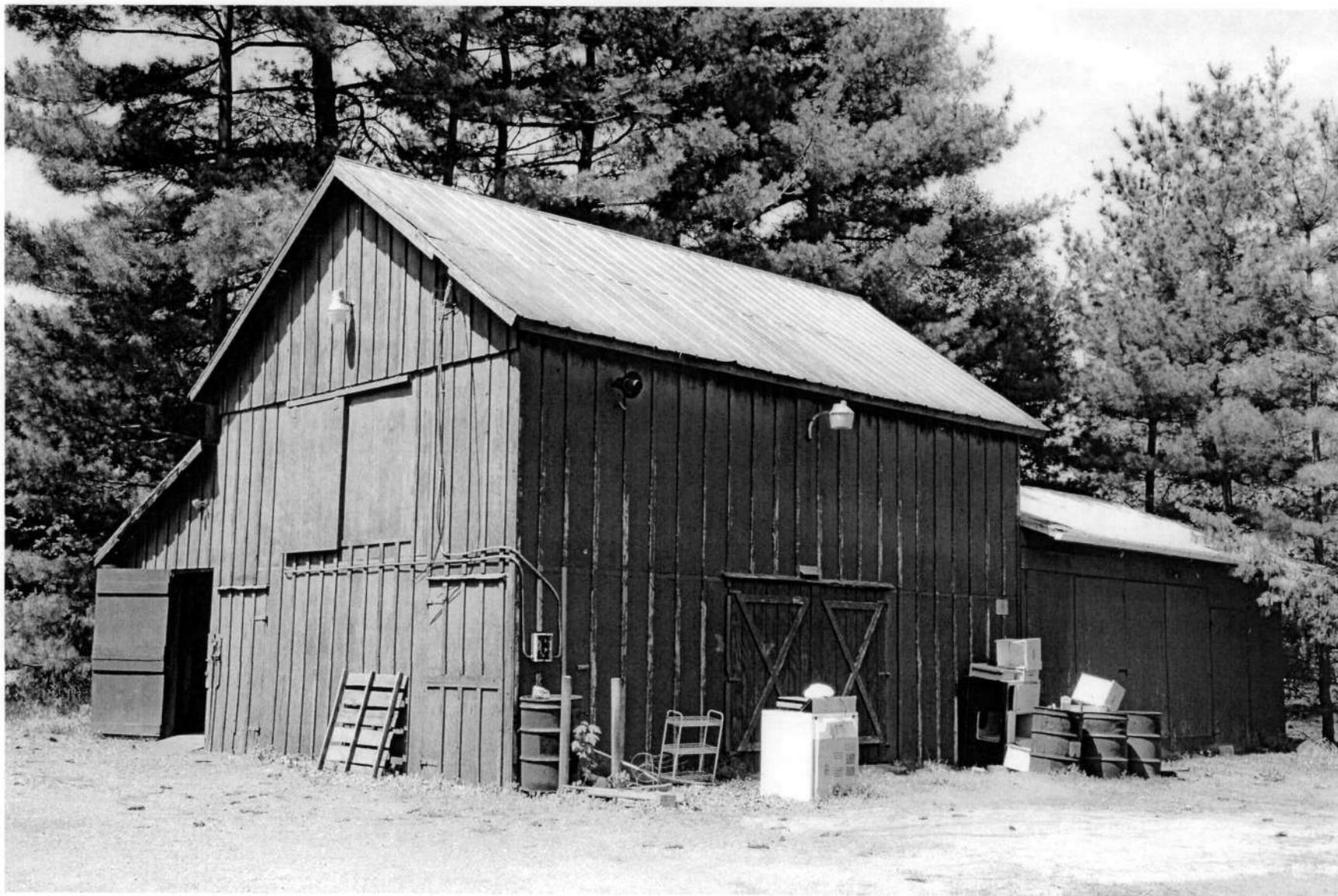
HO-0903 Rex Family House 4239 Montgomery Road House, East room, west elevation
Ken Short, April 2006, 4/7



HO-0903 Rex Family House 4239 Montgomery Road Work Shop, east & north elevations
Ken Short, April 2006, 5/7



HO-0903 Rex Family House 4239 Montgomery Road Carriage House, west & south elevations
Ken Short, April 2006, 6/7



HO-0903 Rex Family House 4239 Montgomery Road Carriage House, south & east elevations
Ken Short, April 2006, 7/7